

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 17-199V
Filed: November 7, 2017
UNPUBLISHED

MARGARET STEPHEN,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine;
Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine
Administration (SIRVA)

*Amber Diane Wilson, Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA, Washington, DC, for petitioner.
Kathryn Ann Robinette, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On February 10, 2017, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered pain in her left arm resulting from a pneumococcal vaccination received on June 8, 2015. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On August 18, 2017, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”). On November 7, 2017, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating petitioner should be awarded \$102,500.00 for pain and suffering and \$1,842.47 in past expenses. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

petitioner agrees with the proffered award. Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$104,342.47, which amount represents \$102,500.00 for pain and suffering and \$1,842.47 in past expenses, in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Margaret Stephen.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey

Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

MARGARET STEPHEN,)
Petitioner,) No. 17-199V
v.) Chief Special Master Dorsey
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN) ECF
SERVICES,)
Respondent.)

)

PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On August 18, 2017, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding that petitioner was entitled to vaccine compensation for her Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”).

I. Items of Compensation

Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$102,500.00 for pain and suffering, and \$1,842.47 in past expenses, which represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).¹ Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of \$104,342.47, in the form of a check payable to petitioner. Petitioner agrees.

¹ Should petitioner die prior to the entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAD A. READLER
Acting Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO
Acting Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

CATHARINE E. REEVES
Deputy Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN
Assistant Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

s/ Kathryn A. Robinette
KATHRYN A. ROBINETTE
Trial Attorney
Torts Branch, Civil Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 146
Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044-0146
Tel: (202) 616-3661
Fax: (202) 616-4310

DATED: November 7, 2017